ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An electronic unit for automatically activating a parking brake in dependence of at least one specified operating parameter or operating mode of a motor vehicle, which can be started without a mechanical key, is equipped with a device for arbitrarily preventing the automatic activation of the parking brake. In a first alternative, the unit is connected with a key button, which can be directly manually actuated, in the form of an OFF switch for the arbitrary prevention of the automatic activation of the parking brake. In a second alternative, the electronic unit in a motor vehicle, which can be started through an electronic authorization verification device with wireless code transmission, is equipped with a mechanism with which the arbitrary prevention of the automatic activation of the parking brake can be triggered by inserting the authorization verification device in a holding shaft that is provided for this purpose.